

WRITE A POEM

1. Uwagi ogólne

Ćwiczenie *Write a poem* jest adresowane do studentów wszystkich kierunków humanistycznych.

2. Poziom zaawansowania: B1/B2

3. Czas trwania opisanych ćwiczeń: 15–25 minut (w zależności od intensywności twórczej studentów)

4. Cele dydaktyczne

Ćwiczenie to ma charakter rozgrzewki (*a warmer*) na początku zajęć. Może być wstępem do bardziej poważnej analizy tekstów literackich.

5. Uwagi i sugestie

Jest to bardzo frapujące ćwiczenie, wykonywane chętnie przez studentów. Należy tylko przed rozpoczęciem zrobić żartobliwy wstęp, w którym przekonujemy studentów, że na poczekaniu mogą stworzyć swój wierszyk, i to w języku angielskim. W moich grupach niektórym udało się nawet napisać wiersz rymowany. Jeżeli chcemy na tych samych zajęciach omówić jakiś wiersz, jest to doskonały wstęp do takich zajęć.

STUDENT'S COPY

James Fenton: *A German Requiem* (a fragment)

Source: https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/James_Fenton, access: 13 March, 2016.

It is not what they built. It is what they knocked down.
 It is not the houses. It is the space between the houses.
 It is not the streets that exist. It is the streets that no longer exist.
 It is not what you have written down.
 It is what you have forgotten, what you must forget.

A brief note on James Fenton:

- born in 1949, Lincoln, England
- an English poet, journalist and literary critic
- a former Oxford Professor of Poetry

Some of his awards:

- Newdigate Prize: sonnet sequence *Our Western Furniture*
- Gregory Award: a collection *Terminal Moraine*
- Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize: *Children in Exile: Poems 1968-1984*
- Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry (2007)

Create your own poem using some of the words below. Add your own words.

crystal empty pure are lips sting springs first flee dragon
 dusty petals soul melting of roses twilight sing demon pierce
 it sweet the like ship jewel feather dream I open ancient
 is fly molten wander unspoken our shine hearts open secret
 steal sky silent winter wrap and fields arrows blowing angels like
 smoke dew truth bee earthly eyes tear pearls hopeless dwell

TEACHER'S COPY

You can be a poet!

Give students a fragment of *A German Requiem* by James Fenton. Show them that a poem does not have to have a complex imagery.

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You may discuss this poem with your students for a few minutes.

Then tell them they are going to write their own poem. It's easy with a given set of words.

Ask them to write 2 or 3 stanzas (or more?) using as many words from the list below as possible. It's great fun for them as every student comes up with their own poem in English! You may wish to add more words that are used in poems or change the form of the given ones.

They read their poems out loud. Great fun guaranteed!

A WARMER TASK

Create your own poem using some of the words below. Add your own words.

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 steal sky silent winter wrap and fields arrows blowing angels like
 smoke dew truth bee earthly eyes tear pearls hopeless dwell

Here is an example of a poem based on the above words:

Crystal angels wandering like a ship
Silent winter wraps my soul
I open my lips silently
Hopeless truth flies out like a bee.